

# Family Guide to the State Interagency Team (SIT)

## **SIT Co-Chairs:**

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**The State Interagency Team meets on the fourth Thursday of each month from 2:00-4:00 p.m.**

## **Why is there a State Interagency Team?**

A law was passed called Act 264 that assures interagency collaboration for children and youth with disabilities. This law created the SIT to identify systems issues and facilitate collaboration so supports and services can be provided to families as flexibly as possible. Through an Interagency Agreement in 2005, this collaboration expanded to include youth with many types of disabilities.

The SIT meets monthly:

1. To be a resource to the Local Interagency Teams (LIT) by responding to questions and system barriers, problem-solving and giving specific recommendations back to the family and LIT; **and**
2. To make recommendations to the Secretaries of the Agency of Human Services and the Agency of Education about the need for programs, supports or services that don't exist or barriers, including financial.

## **Who is on the State Interagency Team?**

1. Vermont Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
2. Vermont Family Network
3. Agency of Education
4. Department of Mental Health
5. Department for Children and Families, Family Services Division
6. Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division
7. Agency of Human Services, Field Director Unit
8. Department of Vermont Health Access
9. Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, Developmental Disabilities Services Division
10. Vermont Department of Health, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs
11. Vermont Department of Health, Maternal Child Health

## Families Role with SIT

### **What can I expect to happen when our situation will be discussed at SIT?**

- You will be asked to give permission and to sign a release to share information about your child and family.
- You will be asked if you want to speak with the SIT parent representative who can explain the process, hear your concerns and represent your voice at the meeting.
- The Coordinated Services Plan (and other important information) that you and your team created will be sent to the SIT Co-Chairs, so the SIT members have the background information they need.
- After the meeting you will hear back from the SIT Co-Chairs and the SIT parent representative to share with you the ideas, suggestions, and/or next steps for LIT. A letter will be sent to you and the LIT Coordinator summarizing these recommendations.
- If you have questions or further concerns, you are welcome to contact your LIT Coordinator or parent representative.

### **How can I be involved in the SIT discussion?**

- You can ask to speak with the SIT parent representative whose name is provided by your LIT.
- You can ask to speak with and/or meet with the SIT Co-Chairs prior to the SIT meeting.
- You can be on the phone for a portion of the SIT meeting to share thoughts you would like us to consider.

**You can find more information about Coordinated Services Plans, Local Interagency Teams, and the State Interagency Team IT and SIT here: [www.act264.vt.gov](http://www.act264.vt.gov)**



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